

COLER IS ALARMED BY VOLSTEAD 'EVILS'

Sees Drug Addiction Growing
and Dependencies on City
Increasing.

The effects of prohibition, as seen in the work of the Department of Public Welfare, are increasingly evil, Commissioner Bird S. Coler declared yesterday. "I can say positively," he declared, "that all the seeming good which was to be derived from the passage of the Volstead act has passed away and that the outlook for increased dependencies of every kind is growing most alarmingly."

The Commissioner said that while the alcoholic wards were practically abandoned in the early part of 1919, their activity at present is greater than it was prior to the passage of the Eighteenth Amendment. Drug addicts, he reports, are growing more numerous all the time and more vicious as well.

From the effect the passage of the act had for the first few months upon all types of dependents in this department, he said, "it looked as if the millennium had come. There was almost a perpendicular drop in every kind of dependency. This condition, however, began to change as soon as the public decided that the law was made not to be obeyed and that the bootlegger worked under the semi-protection of the Government itself."

The Government had been sincere in the effort to enforce prohibition and to release spiritual liquor for medicinal purposes only. It would have inquired from health departments, welfare departments and medical societies what amount of liquor is necessary for medicinal purposes.

"In all the hospitals and dispensaries operated by the city of New York less than 700 gallons a year are used."

The seizure of a carload of alcohol which left New York Friday noon for Boston over the New Haven was reported to prohibition headquarters yesterday as having been made upon the arrival of the alcohol in Boston. Director Day received information Friday night that the alcohol was being shipped for bootleg distribution and immediately informed the Boston enforcement office. The names of the shipper and the consignee were not made known.

The alcohol was contained in 100 barrels, each of fifty gallons capacity. Alcohol has a bootleg value of about \$10 a gallon, which would make the shipment worth \$50,000.

A ship said to have on board liquor valued at \$100,000 was reported yesterday as seeking to discharge its cargo on the southern shore of Long Island, and a strong patrol was placed on guard from Lawrence to Freeport, made up of coast guards, constables and deputy sheriffs. It is rumored that a part of the cargo had been landed, and that some of it had been buried in the meadows between East Rockaway and Long Beach.

Instructions have been received at prohibition headquarters transferring control of the enforcement fleet of former subchasers to customs officials. The reason for the transfer, as stated in the instructions, is contained in the limitations placed upon prohibition officers acting upon the high seas. The customs service exercises a wider authority and, therefore, it is thought, can conduct a more effective campaign against smugglers. Cooperation between the two departments will continue, and the boats will be manned principally by prohibition agents. One customs officer must be aboard each craft.

WETS PREDICT 30 TO 100 SEAT GAIN IN CONGRESS

Continued from First Page.

stitute for the Volstead act. It is quite probable that one will be offered during the Congressional contests. Such a plan has already been reduced to concrete terms and submitted to Democratic and Republican party leaders and members of Congress who are opposed to the present prohibition law.

It will be offered as a "reasonable substitute" for the Volstead act, but will not attack the Eighteenth Amendment. Under the terms of it a percentage of alcoholic content which will permit the manufacture and sale of wine and beer will be urged to take the place of the one-half of 1 per cent. feature of the Volstead act.

Experts are at work trying to evolve a plan of taxation that will insure a large amount of revenue to the Government, provide a system of regulation and distribution and "preserve the moral necessities."

Whether this scheme can be worked out in such a manner as to appeal to popular support is a matter of conjecture.

They believe the public is convinced that it is not being enforced; that it is held in contempt by many millions of the citizens of the country; that more money is spent for liquor to-day than during the era of the saloon; that the Government is helpless to impose the irksome conditions on the country without the cooperation of citizens who openly encourage the violation of it; that the sacrifice of revenue to the Government, plus the cost of trying to enforce the prohibition law, is unwarranted, and finally the people regard the entire experiment as a failure.

Assuming that their theory in this respect is correct, "wet" party leaders and members of Congress who have canvassed the situation believe that the time has come to propose their "reasonable" prohibition law to the voters. Candidates for Congress who elect to take the "wet" end of the argument will be urged to subscribe to a uniform program which will cover all the points involved.

The "wet" best fighting ground will be in the New England States, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado, Washington, Oregon, California, Utah, Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Florida. The "wet" leaders express confidence in the ability of their candidates to win on a wine and beer platform in many of these States. They seem to think the recent results in the farming districts in New York and Illinois reflect dissatisfaction with the Volstead act among agriculturists. Whether their conclusion is correct remains to be seen.

The "dry" leaders while admitting that the results in New York and Illinois reflected some dissatisfaction with the Volstead law do not appear to be particularly apprehensive as to the outcome of Congressional contests fought on the prohibition issue. One of the "dry" leaders said today that the popular demonstrations against the law were expected. He

His Bathtub Sentence Makes Him a Life Dry

MAHA, April 15.—Roy Mahoney, who was sentenced yesterday by a police Judge to empty, one by one, 3,200 bottles of home brewed beer into a bathtub without touching a drop, did not resume his task to-day.

After a hard day's pouring he became convinced last night that he never would nor ever could touch another drop, and his sentence was commuted.

Police continued the pouring to-day.

asserted that most of the protests against the Volstead act were due to the "increasing efficiency of the Government" in coping with violations of it.

"It was not to be expected," said he, "that the people of the country would accommodate themselves to the new conditions without considerable opposition from those who place their own selfish desires above the public welfare. It will take some time to make the entire country dry. But the country will be made dry despite the resistance of people who have no respect for the laws of the land."

"If the violators find any satisfaction in trying to elect Congressmen who will favor the return of the depraved conditions that existed five years ago let them go ahead. They will fail. Every day witnesses improvement in the conditions of the country. The supply of whisky hidden away and drunk in violation of the law is daily diminishing. It will not be long before it is all consumed and all sources of supply shut off."

"Wet" candidates for Congress who make their campaign on a wine and beer platform—which, of course, means whisky as well—will find out that the overwhelming majority of the people of the country are satisfied with the prohibition law despite the vast sums of money spent in propaganda against it.

JAMES SPEYER TO OPEN ANTI-DRY MASS MEETING

James Speyer, as one of the active vice-presidents of the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment, will call to order the mass meeting which the association will hold May 2 in Madison Square Garden. James P. Holland, president of the State Federation of Labor and also a vice-president, will preside. Members of various labor bodies throughout the State will attend in a body.

In accepting the chairmanship Mr. Holland said: "The New York State Federation of Labor is heartily in accord with the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment and its demand that the Volstead act be repealed. Prohibition may be of value in some departments of labor, but in my opinion the men who work in mines, power plants or wherever there is excessive heat need beer and are entitled to it."

MENTAL DEFECTIVE MEASURE IS VETOED

Gov. Miller Feared Provision
Menacing Liberty of Apparently Insane.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau, Albany, April 15.

Gov. Miller to-day vetoed the Knight mental deficiency measure, which would have made it easy to commit a person who apparently was a mental defective. It was charged that this sweeping provision would permit any one to "put away" a person against whom he had a grudge, and this contention was upheld by the Governor in his veto.

Of the bill Gov. Miller wrote in a memorandum:

"This measure is the result of the experience and the study of the State Commission for Mental Defectives and of others who have devoted earnest thought to the problem. It is unquestionably a decided improvement in many important respects upon the present law, but contains some important provisions of doubtful import and of uncertain operation. In some respects it follows the insanity law, but insanity and mental deficiency present entirely different problems, both with respect to custodial care and treatment. One is primarily a medical problem, the other psychological."

"The most doubtful provision of this measure is the one providing for the temporary commitment for observation of a person who is apparently a mental defective. Such commitment is to be made in the boroughs of Manhattan and The Bronx to the trustees of Bellevue. In the boroughs of Kings, Queens and Richmond to the Commissioner of Public Welfare; elsewhere in the State to the local health officer. The expense of maintenance during the period of temporary commitment to be a local charge."

"The act apparently omits to provide the local health officer with the necessary means to provide temporary main-

tenance or with the power to apply for a permanent commitment in case the apparent defective is found to be in fact a defective.

"I have no doubt but that the present provisions of law for the commitment of mental defectives are inadequate, but the power to deprive an individual of his liberty for an indefinite period on a finding by a magistrate that he is apparently a mental defective should certainly be most carefully guarded, if it is to be conferred at all."

"The mental deficiency problem is still unsolved in this State. It has received the attention demanded by its impor-

ance only within recent years. It is estimated that there are 61,000 mental defectives in the State who ought to have custodial care. At present the capacity of the State institutions is limited to about 5,000. This act would undoubtedly increase the commitments to State institutions, although the hospitals are now overtaxed. I think the State must provide the custodial care required the same as has been done in the case of the insane, but it will take time to secure the additional accommodations required. Meanwhile the subject should receive further study. A year's delay will not be so serious as

the enactment of a measure which may arouse unnecessary and harmful prejudice against the law.

"I deplore the pernicious and misleading propaganda directed against this measure, which has aroused much misinformation and has created a prejudice in the public mind which will be harmful even in the administration of the present laws. The right solution of this problem directly affects the welfare of society, and that solution will not be advanced by misleading appeals to popular prejudice."

Among the bills discarded by an om-

nibus veto were those erecting the county of Bronx, and making it a felony to sell or give away habit-forming drugs. The Governor cleared up 800 bills, and was glad when his task was done. When he had signed the last bill the Governor got up from his desk, stretched his arms, gave a long whistle, and remarked: "That was quite some job. Now for a good rest. He has been working ten to fifteen hours a day for the last three weeks, covering in that time the results of three months' work done by the Legislature, and he looks tired out."



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Petals and points are the outstanding features of this exquisite copy of a Lanvin model. The petals are smartly hemstitched in contrasting color and effectively ornament the short sleeves, extend completely down one side and from the shirring at the low waistline on the other. A decidedly Parisian touch is the row of tiny self material buttons extending from the bateau neckline to the waist.

The artistry with which this dress of Satin Back Canton Crepe is fashioned can only be conceived by such a famed couturier as Patou. The wide, flaring sleeves with contrasting color undersleeves are of Georgette Crepe, as is the yoke edged with hand embroidered stitching. Jet beads adorn the front of dress and the panels at side are lined to match the embroidery.

Replica of one of Agnes' newest creations, this unique coat of Twill Cord is quite distinctive in line and treatment. The panel-effect bloused back and adorable wide sleeves are graced with silk ribbon braid in Grey or self shade. A decidedly new collar is combined with silk Crepe in contrasting color and Monkey fur enriches its beauty. Narrow panels of self fabric extending from waistline are tucked under the hem in a most effective manner.

The compelling beauty of this chic coat of Twill Cord lies in the newest deep-pointed sleeves sponsored by Jenny in her latest creations. The novel coat of self material is effectively rather than lavishly adorned with silk braid embroidery in brilliant tones. The narrow tie sash effects a blousing at the waistline and ties in a bow. Beautifully silk Crepe lined throughout.

Two and Three Piece Costume Suits

Suits with
Box and
Knee
Length
Coats

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Distinctive
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Costume
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Patou Copy
of Fox
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Cape

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Paris Capes
and Exact
Copies.

100.00



The exceptionally high character of tailoring and the exactitude of minute detail are the important features of these handsome two and three piece costume suits of Twill Cord or Piquette. The box-coats and knee-length jackets hold sway, and the dresses of the three piece models are combined with Silk Crepe in contrasting shade to correspond with the lining of the coat. Admirable touches of Silk embroidery, Silk braid and other fanciful ornamentation beautify many.

Patou has created a cape as smart as it is compelling. Stewart & Co. have reproduced this model with much care and skill. Crepe Nippon has been chosen for its fashioning and the rich collars of Beige or Platinum Fox fur lend their shimmering luster to enhance the unique lines. Also other enchanting models in straight, flowing lines and artistically draped types. All handsomely Silk Crepe lined.

Original Paris model capes from such notable designers as Agnes, Worth and Carra, also counterparts of other fascinating models by equally prominent creators. One model of Satin Back Crepe Nippon is beautifully combined with Kasha Cloth and enriched with vari-hued embroidery; another model of Twill Cord is effectively all-over tucked and stitched with tinsel thread. Silver braid embroidery and Monkey fur adorn another.

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